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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: April 16, 1964

SUBJECT: Rumor of U.S. Senate Decision to Terminate AID Programs to Certain Countries Including Libya.

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Farag Ali Ben Gileil, Counselor, Libyan Embassy
Mr. Grant V. McClanahan, OIC Libyan Affairs

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AID (US) Libya

Mr. Ben Gileil telephoned Mr. McClanahan on April 14 to inquire urgently about some information which he said he had heard and which he wished to check with the Department of State. The information was to the effect that the U.S. Senate had made a decision to stop U.S. aid to a number of countries and that Libya was one of these countries. Mr. McClanahan said that he felt certain that this was not valid information but that he would inquire. He asked whether Mr. Ben Gileil had seen this in a newspaper in Libya or from some source in this country. Mr. Ben Gileil said he had not seen it in a Libyan newspaper but did not indicate where he had received his information.

After inquiring informally from AID and from H Mr. McClanahan told Mr. Ben Gileil on April 16 that the Senate had not made a decision against aid to Libya, however, he would continue to look into the possible basis for Mr. Ben Gileil's inquiry and if something significant developed he would be glad to let him know. Mr. Ben Gileil was grateful and seemed relieved. He said he would appreciate hearing anything further that Mr. McClanahan might be able to tell him on this subject.

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